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**Darlene Green
Comptroller**

The Comp times

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO AUDIT

Women gained the right in the 1920's when many feminist activist stood up for women's rights. The 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote was ratified on August 18, 1920, when the 36th state, Tennessee, voted to ratify the amendment.

Comptroller and League of Women Voters Celebrate

Women's History Month



Comptroller Darlene Green, along with the League of Women Voters celebrated Women's History month by joining forces with the St. Louis Public Libraries and Clear Channel's KMJM Majic 104.9, to register individuals in the City of St. Louis during March.

Comptroller Green joined forces with 57th District State Representative Karla May and 2nd Ward Committee Woman Mattie Moore kicking off four afternoons of voter registration at the regional libraries in the City.

The League of Women Voters was eager to help with this effort. The group is a citizens organization that has fought since 1920 to improve the government and engage all citizens to be active participants. The League operates at national, state and local levels through more than 800 state and local Leagues, in all 50 states, as well in DC, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong.

The 19th US Constitutional

Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, was ratified on August 18, 1920, when the 36th state, Tennessee, voted to ratify the amendment. The ratification was certified on August 26, 1920.

The St. Louis Public Libraries participating in the Comptroller's campaign were Julia Davis, Carpenter, Schlafly and Buder Libraries. Any resident wanting to register to vote or change their address for registration can go to any public library regional or branch and sign up to vote.



Majic 104.9 was also on hand to give out prizes. They also provided on air, public service announcements about the registration drive.

Free Tax Preparation Day

Comptroller Darlene Green, the National Association of Black Accountants-St. Louis Chapter, First National Bank of St. Louis, and St. Louis Community College, offered residents in the St. Louis Metropolitan area an opportunity to get their taxes prepared for free on Wednesday, March 7, 2012. This free tax preparation day took place at the William J. Harrison Education Center, an extension campus of the Community Colleges. Some 30 individuals had their taxes prepared that evening. Radio One St. Louis' FOXY 95.5 and air personality Chaz Saunders were on hand to give away tickets to the New Edition concert to the first people in line to get their taxes prepared. Taxes were prepared for people earning up to \$50,000. First National Bank of St. Louis held workshops in home loans and credit repair.



Comptroller's Office moves toward Social

Media



STLCompOffice @STLCompOffice

Happy Retirement to Ms. Eileen Gassel. We appreciate your 15 years of service & will miss your amusing stories.

pic.twitter.com/oNo06dFM

View photo

3h

"Miracle on the Hudson" landing were seen on twitter at least 15 minutes before any mainstream media reported it.

Although the Comptroller's Office hasn't saved any lives or witnessed plane landings in the river, here are a few examples of what we have done on Twitter:

Provided information about voter awareness, congratulated employees for their service, offered free tax help, and welcomed tourist to the City.

Twitter may seem complex, but it is really as simple as reading the newspaper. Oh, and to answer your question about the Comptroller's Office and Twitter. Yes we have a Twitter account and you can follow it.

@stlcompoffice

Currently 310 people follow the Comptroller's Office, but, after reading this will you?

You are probably saying why should I care about social media here at work?



In 2008 the United States witnessed history on many significant levels. The election that resulted in the country's first African-American President leading the charge, as a new generation quickly burst onto the scene.

The need for instant and constant information has helped social sites like Facebook and Twitter grow to unimaginable levels.

Here are a few questions about the Comptroller's Office and Social Media:

Does the Comptroller's Office have a twitter account and if so what is the address? Do you know how many followers the Comptroller's Office has on twitter?

If you know the answers, pat yourself on the back. If you don't know the answer that's ok, we'll share them with you at the end of this article.

By now you are probably thinking why should I care about social media here at work? Or you may be saying the following to yourself: "I don't use twitter, I don't get it, and I don't care to get it." Let me share a few interesting facts about twitter that you may not have known.

Social Media has saved more than 7 lives in the past year. Some of the first pictures of the famous

Airport Compliance Workshop

During the month of March, the Internal Audit Department teamed up with the Board of Public Service and Lambert St. Louis International Airport Management to host an Airport Contract Compliance workshop, for construction and design companies. The objective was simple and clear. Create a better experience and improve contract performance with contractors doing business with the airport.

"This project was the result of communications with the Board of Public Service, Lambert St. Louis International Airport Management-Deputy Director of Planning, Development and the Deputy Director of Finance Administration regarding the

existing risks identified in the review of construction and design contracts currently in effect. Leonard Bell, Jr. Internal Auditor, explained.

"They fully endorsed an outreach to companies to increase the opportunity for better contract performance and experience in doing business with Lambert-St. Louis International Airport in the areas of construction and design," Bell said

A total of 96 people, representing 54 different companies that currently or have a desire to do business with the Airport, attended the two days of sessions offered. The businesses were provided with presentations from the Missouri Division of Labor and Industrial Relations, Missouri



Department of Transportation (MODOT), US Department of Labor, Airport Finance and Accounting Section, Airport DBE Programs Office and Comptroller's Office Internal Audit Section.

"Those attending obtained a better understanding of the compliance concerns in contract performance as well the benefits that an audit process can provide to a company," Bell said.

HAPPY BIRTH DAY!
For those born in March



- 15 Scott King
- 22 Catherine Smith
- 23 Antoinette Thomas
- 29 Eileen Gassel
- 30 Doris Hamilton
- 30 Lisa Harmon

Employee of the Month



Congratulations to Leonard Bell, auditor, Internal Audit Section on being nominated Comptroller's Employee of the Month for March.

Bell conducted recently at Lambert St. Louis International Airport, audits where he saw a need to reign in and inform contractors working at the facility, according to Dr. Kenneth Stone, director of Internal Audit Section.

Bell planned, organized and helped present workshops to contractors on how to bill and work with Lambert. In addition Bell got the cooperation and input of state and federal personnel to present information on labor laws and wage rates.

Have A Great Retirement Bill Cherry and Eileen Gassel

Bill Cherry worked for the City of St. Louis for 34 years. Cherry retired February 2012, after working as the Lead Garage Attendant.

Eileen Gassel worked for the City of St. Louis for 15 years. Gassel retired April 2012, as an Accounting Clerk for the Financial Reporting Section.

Congratulations to Cherry and Gassel for their service and a good job well done. Here's to a wonderful retirement!

Go to Youtube/stlcompoffice to view more.



A Moment in Women's History



Rita C. Houghasian was the first women Comptroller for the City of St. Louis. She served for one year as acting Comptroller from 1980-1981.

Houghasian was Deputy Comptroller from 1978-1980, and served again in that capacity from 1981-1989.

Houghasian began working for the City of St. Louis in 1948 as an Accountant for the late Comptroller Louis Nolte. Houghasian worked for six other St. Louis city comptrollers. The last one was former Comptroller Virvus Jones.

Houghasian retired after 41 years from the Comptroller's Office in 1989. She grew up in North St. Louis, graduated from Central High School and worked for the federal government before she joined the City.

It was said by City Hall insiders that Houghasian never raised her voice, would drop you a note in the middle of controversy, was genuinely a lady and always drank coffee out of a teacup.

Houghasian passed in 2007.

Comptroller's Free Tax Preparation Day a Success!

The CompTimes

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